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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

AUSTRALIA.

Report from Brisbane—Examination of rodents for plague infection— Laboratory plague in animals at Mackay.

The following information is taken from plague bulletins received from the Department of Public Health of Queensland:

Date of finding of last plague-infected rat, September 15, 1908.

Week ended January 30, 1909. Rodents destroyed, 540; examined, 447; plague rodents, 0. Week ended February 6. Rodents destroyed, 684; examined, 600; plague rodents, 0.

Week ended February 13. Rodents destroyed, 580; examined 482; plague rodents, 0.

Mackay.—On January 21 a man carrying on business at Mackay died in the local hospital. Post-mortem specimens obtained from the cadaver and forwarded to Brisbane, on preliminary bacteriological examination were found to be negative of plague. A guinea pig and mouse, however, were inoculated in the usual way, and on February 2 the government bacteriologist reported that the animals had died (6 days after inoculation) with typical post-mortem appearances of plague. An active search for rats is being conducted and all precautions taken at Mackay.

BARBADOS.

Reports from Bridgetown—Status of yellow fever.

Consul Martin reports, February 25 and March 5: Since February 16, 7 more cases of yellow fever have been reported to this consulate, all in the country parishes. Five of these cases were colored persons, and all were native born. None are reported as having terminated fatally.

There have been reported, since December 12, 52 cases, 16 being fatal.

March 5: Since February 25 there have been only 2 cases of yellow fever reported. One occurred in a colored boy in an outlying district, the other in a white man in the city of Bridgetown. A case has occurred at Speightstown, on the west coast, 12 miles north of Bridgetown, the first to occur in that parish. The disease is abating. Official information states that 25 of the first 52 cases were fatal.

Sir Rupert Boyce, of England, arrived in the colony March 1. He saw a case on the next day and at once pronounced it yellow fever.

He sees no difficulty in stamping it out by destroying the mosquitoes. He approves of the sanitary measures already taken by the authorities, and more efficient action is being used to eradicate the source of infection.

BRAZIL.

Reports from Rio de Janeiro—Inspection of vessels—Mortality—Plague and smallpox.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, February 10 and 18:

Period from January 18 to February 10. Vessels inspected and received bills of health for United States ports: January 19 the German steamship *Gunther*, for New York, in coffee cargo, with no passengers from this port and no change in the crew personnel; January 22 the British steamship *Cervantes*, for New York, with coffee, no passengers and 2 new members of the crew signed on in this port; on January 23 the American barge *Clatsop*, in ballast, with no change in crew at this port and bound for Portland, Oreg.; on the same date the British steamship *Castilian Prince*, for New York, in coffee cargo, with no passengers, and no change in crew here; on January 26, for Honolulu, the American ship *Dirigo*, with cargo of coal in transit, no passengers and 12 new members of the crew taken here; January 26 the British steamship *Virgil*, for New Orleans, in coffee, no passengers and no change in the crew; on the same date the British steamship *Black Prince*, for New Orleans, in cargo of coffee, no passengers and no change in the crew; on January 27 the Belgian steamship *Cavour*, for New York, in cargo, with no passengers and 1 new member of crew taken on in this port; on January 28 the British steamship *Pontiac*, for New York, in coffee cargo, with no passengers and with no change in the crew here; January 30 the Brazilian steamship *Goyaz*, for New York, with coffee and miscellaneous cargo for coast ports, and with a new crew taken on here, all of whom were vaccinated, and with 34 cabin and 78 steerage passengers; February 2 the British steamship *Saxon Prince*, for New York, in coffee cargo, with no passengers and no change in crew; on the same date the Norwegian bark *Vaar*, for Port Arthur, Tex., in stone ballast, with no passengers and no change in the crew; February 3 the British steamship *Byron*, for New York, with coffee cargo, no change in crew and with 13 first-class and 12 steerage passengers, and on the same date the British steamship *St. Ursula*, bound for New York, putting in here for coal only, with no passengers and no change in crew and no communication other than with coal barge.

No other vessels left during the period under report bound for United States ports.

Week ended February 18. No transactions.

Mortality, week ended January 24.—Total deaths, 291. No deaths nor cases caused by yellow fever. Plague caused no deaths, but there were 6 new cases reported. Smallpox caused 34 new deaths and 34 new reported cases, of which number 11 were in the suburban zone. At the close of the week there were in the Hospital São Sebastião 67 cases of smallpox and 9 cases of plague under treatment; in the Hospital Engenho do Dentro, 18 cases of smallpox under